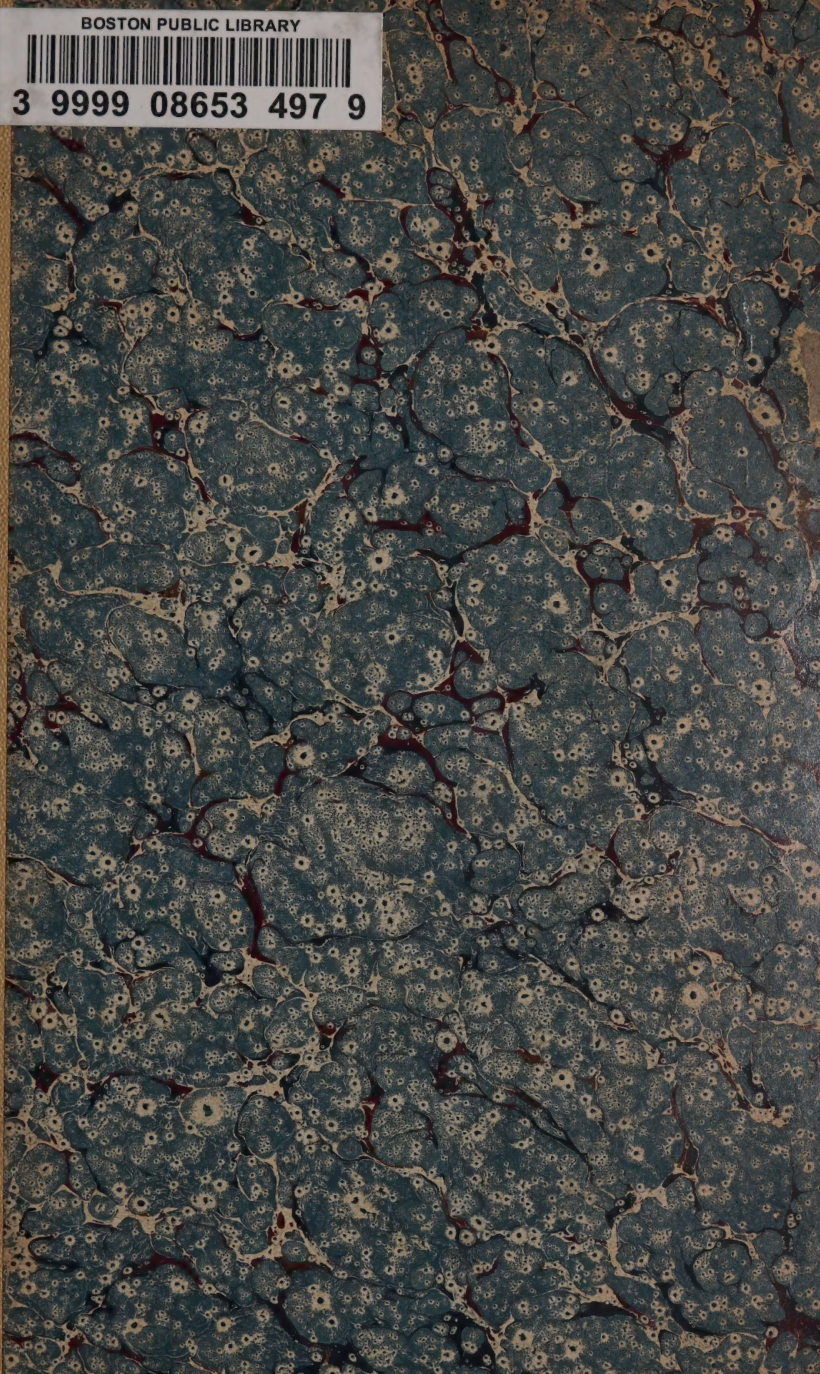


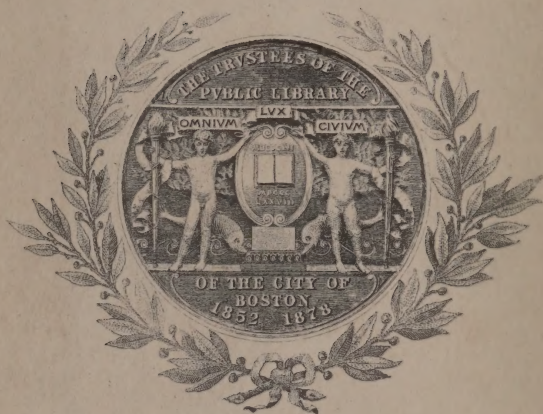
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CONSTITUTION.



THE consideration of the numerous advantages, which society derives from institutions calculated to direct the principle of benevolence to certain definite objects, hath induced the members of this Society to unite and attempt to give relief to such persons, belonging to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as may suffer by the devastation of fire; to grant aid to benevolent institutions, and for other charitable purposes; and to stimulate genius to useful discoveries.

Having obtained from the Legislature of said Commonwealth an act of incorporation, and several additional acts, with power to ordain laws and regulations to carry these designs into execution, we have agreed on those which follow, viz.—

ARTICLE V.

At every annual election of officers, a Committee shall be appointed for the examination of all such machines or inventions as come within the object of this Institution; and it shall consist of persons distinct from the Government of this Society; and no premium shall be adjudged, but on a certificate from the said Committee, certifying the utility, novelty, and originality of the machine or invention.

ARTICLE VI.

The President, or, in his absence, the Vice President, or, in their absence, the Treasurer, shall have power to call Special Meetings of the Government of this Society, and, by their advice, or at the written request of any twelve members of this Society, a meeting of the Society at large, when business, in their opinion, shall be of such importance as to require it.

ARTICLE VII.

At any meeting of this Society, or of the Government thereof, in case of the absence of the President and Vice President, the Treasurer for the time being shall preside; and the person presiding shall not be allowed a vote, in any instance, unless there shall be a tie of the other members, in which case he shall have it in his power to give a casting vote.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Government of this Society, or a majority of them, assembled on due notice, shall be vested with power to act on all business pertaining to the Society, subject to the following restrictions, viz.

Restriction 1st.—The interest only arising from the Society's funds shall be applied to charitable purposes and benevolent institutions, and the payment of such premiums as are calculated to

further the benevolent principles of this Institution.

Restriction 2d.—No premium for any machine or invention shall be granted, but on full and satisfactory proof of its being new and original. And no person shall receive a premium for any such machine or invention, unless he shall publicly make known the principles and methods of its construction and use.

Restriction 3d.—The whole amount of premiums granted and appropriations made, in any one year, shall not exceed two third parts of the interest arising from the funds in that year.

ARTICLE IX.

The Treasurer shall give good and sufficient bonds, with sureties, in such penalty as the Government of this Society may direct, for the faithful performance of his duty, and particularly to account for, and pay over all monies

which may come into his hands. He shall not pay away any of the Society's money without a written order from the presiding officer, countersigned by one of the Secretaries. He shall keep a true account of all receipts and payments, and the same shall be kept in dollars and cents. His accounts shall be annually examined by Auditors, who shall be appointed at the meeting in April, and make their report to the meeting in October following.

ARTICLE X.

No person shall be eligible for the office of Treasurer more than five years successively; and in case of the removal of the Treasurer from his office by death, absence, indisposition or otherwise, the President or presiding officer shall personally fill the office of Treasurer until his return, or another is chosen.

ARTICLE XI.

The interest shall remain one year, to be applied by the Government agreea-

bly to the principles of this Institution ; but in case there shall be no occasion for the application thereof, it shall, at the expiration of the year, be put into the funds and considered ever afterwards as part of the principal.

ARTICLE XII.

Any person, who shall hereafter wish to become a member of this Institution, may make application to the Recording Secretary, or either of the Trustees, or any Committee appointed to receive subscriptions, and upon such application being made, and upon his paying the sum of five dollars, which sum shall be appropriated to the Society's funds, his name shall then be recorded, and he from that time be considered as a member.

ARTICLE XIII.

Notice shall be given, by the Recording Secretary, of the Statute Meetings of this Society, in two of the Boston newspapers, at least fourteen days prior to the time of their coming together.

ARTICLE XIV.

Whenever the Government of the Society shall judge it expedient, a book shall be printed, containing the laws and regulations of this Society, a catalogue of its members, the sums they may subscribe, an account of all donations that may have been received since the last publication, together with the names of the donors, and such other accounts, statements and papers as the Government shall deem requisite; and each member shall be entitled to two copies.

ARTICLE XV.

A record of all the proceedings of this Society, and of the Government thereof, shall be kept by the Recording Secretary, and shall from time to time be laid before the Society at their Statute Meetings.

Statement of Charitable Donations,

*From Interest arising from the Funds of the Society,
to Sufferers by Fire, from the Year 1813 to 1823,
viz.—*

1814.

To Messrs. Orcut, ...	20
Clark, ...	75
Boynton, ...	75
Noyes, ...	50
Thompson, ...	35
Foster, ...	60
Lang, ...	41 50
Russell, ...	50
Leonard, ...	50
Wells, ...	100
	\$ 556 50

1815.

To Messrs. Winter & Moore, ...	150
Goodrich, ...	45
Gilbert, ...	35
	\$ 230

1816.

To Messrs. Leader, ...	10
Moore, ...	60
Dill, ...	20
Annable, ...	20
Perry, ...	30
Johnson, ...	10
Gates, ...	50
	\$ 200

1817—none.

1818.

To Messrs. Pike, ...	20
Mansfield, ...	50
Frost, ...	40
Goodwin, ...	150
Warren, ...	100
Fairchild, ...	15
Richardson, ...	15
Gunnison, ...	100
Carteret, ...	50

\$ 540

1819.

To Messrs. Davis, ...	15
Parsons, ...	10
Gordon, ...	100
Braman, ...	150
Tolman, ...	50
Brown, ...	50
Edwards, ...	100

\$ 475

1820.

To Messrs. Smith, ...	60
Draper, ...	10
Alden, ...	25
True & Weston, ...	100
Loring & Cowan, ...	88
Gay, ...	25

\$ 308

1821.

To Mr. Thomas, ... \$ 30

1822.

To Messrs. Murphy, ... 20
 Ciclitira, ... 100
 Atkyns, ... 20

\$ 140

1823.

To Messrs. Baker, ... 40
 Whitney, ... 300

\$ 340

Sums total distributed to the Sufferers by Fire.

1814.....556 50
 1815.....230
 1816.....200
 1817.....none.
 1818.....540
 1819.....475
 1820.....308
 1821.....30
 1822.....140
 1823.....340

\$ 2819 50

*Sums paid by Order of the Trustees, pursuant
to the Act passed 1822.*

1822.

To the Massachusetts General Hospital, ...	300
do. do. do. do.	300

1823.

do. do. do. do.	300
	<u>\$ 900</u>



State of the Funds of the Society,

OCTOBER, 1823.

Union Bank Stock, ...	2300
Six per Cent. Stock of the U. States, ...	15965 29
Seven per Cent. Stock ditto.	2000
	<u>\$ 20265 29</u>
Cash on hand, ...	318 9
	<u> </u>
Total amount of Funds, ...	<u>\$ 20583 38</u>

Government of the Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1823.

THOMAS K. JONES, Esq. *President.*

JAMES WHITE, Esq. *Vice President.*

JOHN HEARD, JUN. Esq. *Corresponding Sec'ry.*

MR. JAMES W. BURDITT, *Recording Sec'ry.*

JOSEPH LOVERING, Esq. *Treasurer.*

Trustees.

ARNOLD WELLS, Esq.

LYNDE WALTER, Esq.

JAMES PHILLIPS, Esq.

REV. THOMAS BALDWIN, D. D.

FRANCIS J. OLIVER, Esq.

JOSEPH COOLIDGE, Esq.

GEORGE BURROUGHS, Esq.

SAMUEL PERKINS, Esq.

Members,

1823.

Ebenezer T. Andrews,	Ebenezer V. Gay,
James T. Austin,	F. Garraux,
	Samuel T. Goodridge,
Rev. Tho. Baldwin, D.D.	
James W. Burditt,	E. Hobart,
Daniel Baxter,	John Heard, Jun.
Willard Badger,	Jonathan Hunnewell,
Joseph P. Bradlee,	Caleb Hartshorn,
David W. Bradlee,	Timothy Hall,
Andrew Brimmer,	Samuel Howe,
Thomas Bartlett,	
Benajah Brigham,	William Ingalls,
Lemuel Blake,	
George Burroughs,	Thomas K. Jones,
Thomas S. Boardman,	Charles H. Jones,
Allan Crocker,	John T. Kirkland, D.D.
Isaac Cook,	J. Kuhn,
Joseph Coolidge,	Gedney King,
Henry B. Curtis,	
John Cotton,	Bradford Lincoln,
Bishop Cheverus,	Henry Lienow,
	Joseph Lovering,
Timothy Dodd,	James Loring,
Amasa Davis,	
John Dorr,	Samuel F. McCleary,
	Henry Messinger,
Ephraim Eliot,	James Morrill,
	Phineas Mitchell,
John Fox,	

Francis J. Oliver,

Samuel Perkins,
Samuel Phillips,
James Phillips,
Hon. John Phillips,

Josiah Quincy,

Joseph W. Revere,
Samuel Richards,
Henry Rice,
Josiah C. Ransford,
Benjamin Russell,

S. Salisbury,

T. K. Thomas,
John Thompson,
A. W. Thaxter,

William Tileston,
Isaiah Thomas,
William Taylor,
William Thurston,

Eli Veasie,

Thomas L. Winthrop,
Arnold Wells,
Charles White,
James White,
Joseph White,
Alfred Welles,
John Wilson,
Lynde Walter,
Daniel Wild,
Nathan Webb,
William Wyman,
Moses Wallack,
Moses Whitney.

Members.

Members.

